

105TH CONGRESS
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S. RES. 134

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should give high priority to working with partners in the Americas to address shared foreign policy and security problems in the Western Hemisphere.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 9, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should give high priority to working with partners in the Americas to address shared foreign policy and security problems in the Western Hemisphere.

Whereas the worldwide democratic revolution has spread throughout the Western Hemisphere to include democratically elected governments in all countries but Cuba;

Whereas market economic principles have been adopted by most countries in the Western Hemisphere, resulting in remarkable economic growth and substantial increases in international trade and investment;

Whereas the end of the Cold War has opened up opportunities to address country-specific, regional, and Hemisphere-wide concerns relating to economic development,

political reform, security problems, and other social and environmental issues in the Americas;

Whereas there are numerous foreign policy and security concerns in the Americas, including the defense of democracy and free markets, illicit narcotics trafficking, terrorism, organized criminal activities, immigration flows, arms control and nonproliferation, environment degradation, and other regional and Hemisphere-wide issues that can best be addressed by collaborative, multilateral means;

Whereas the President of the United States announced on August 1, 1997, a revision of the unilateral policy prohibiting the sale or transfer of advanced weapons systems to countries of South America, Central America, and the Caribbean, and the restoration of United States military sales policy based on a case-by-case basis comparable to other regions of the world;

Whereas the defense ministers of the Hemisphere meet on a regular basis, as evidenced by the Defense Ministerial of the Americas held in 1995 and 1996, to address problems of mutual security and to deepen the security dialogue in the Western Hemisphere; and

Whereas it is in the national security interest of the United States to promote security and stability with our Hemispheric neighbors by engaging with them as equal partners to address security-related matters of mutual concern: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—
- 2 (1) the United States should give high priority
- 3 to working with United States partners in the Amer-

1 icas to address shared foreign policy and security
2 problems in the Western Hemisphere;

3 (2) the United States should encourage efforts
4 to increase the transparency of defense planning,
5 military acquisitions, military exercises, and military
6 deployments as well as other mutual-confidence and
7 security-building measures in the Hemisphere in
8 order to strengthen the environment of trust, con-
9 fidence, and mutual restraint;

10 (3) the United States should immediately begin
11 discussions with United States partners in the
12 Hemisphere on steps that could lead to a voluntary
13 multilateral restraint regime on the acquisition of
14 advanced weapons systems in the Hemisphere;

15 (4) the United States, in consultation with
16 other countries in the Americas, should explore
17 areas for enhancing cooperation and collaboration,
18 including the strengthening of existing inter-Amer-
19 ican organizations and arrangements, in order to ad-
20 dress shared problems relating to subregional and
21 Hemisphere-wide foreign policy and security-related
22 issues;

23 (5) the United States should—

24 (A) encourage countries in the Hemisphere
25 to implement the Santiago Declaration on Con-

1 fidence and Security-Building Measures
2 (CSBM) resolution adopted by the Organization
3 of American States (OAS) on November 10,
4 1995; and

5 (B) take steps to bring about the imple-
6 mentation of the resolution on Conventional
7 Arms Transparency and Confidence Building in
8 the Americas relating to conventional arms ac-
9 quisitions adopted by the OAS on June 5,
10 1997;

11 (6) the United States should increase the num-
12 ber of civilian and military personnel in foreign pol-
13 icy and defense-related training, education, and ex-
14 change programs from and to eligible countries in
15 the Western Hemisphere and encourage similar pro-
16 grams between countries in the region;

17 (7) the United States should conduct an in-
18 depth study of the roles, requirements, missions, and
19 priorities of the United States Armed Forces in the
20 Western Hemisphere in the post-Cold War environ-
21 ment, including recommendations for additional
22 steps that should be taken to improve Hemispheric
23 security and areas of possible cooperation with the
24 armed forces of other countries in the region;

